

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 4, 6-9, 22-25, 27, 30, 32-35, 41 and 43-50 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 4, 6-9, 22-25, 27, 30, 32-35, 41 and 43-50 are allowed.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claims 1 and 27 recite the uniquely distinct feature of "....receiving an authentication request at the authentication system from a desktop computer, wherein the authentication request includes a first set of credentials of the user, the first set of credentials comprising a username and a password; determining based on the first set of credentials being a username and password that a first credential store is to be accessed to validate the authentication request from the desktop computer, the first credential store storing sets of credentials that each comprise a username and password; validating the first set of credentials provided by the user by accessing the first credential store to determine whether the username and password are associated with a single unique user identifier, wherein each set of credentials in the first credential store is associated with a single unique user identifier of a user, a single unique user account, and a single unique user profile such that upon determining that the first set of credentials is associated with a unique user identifier, the unique user identifier is

returned to the desktop computer such that the desktop computer may use the unique user identifier to access a service; receiving a second authentication request at the authentication system from a cellular phone, wherein the authentication request includes a second set of credentials of the user, the second set of credentials comprising a numeric username and a numeric pin, wherein the numeric username is distinct from the username; determining based on the second set of credentials being a numeric username and a numeric pin that a second credential store is to be accessed to validate the authentication request from the cellular phone, the second credential store storing sets of credentials each comprise a numeric username and a numeric pin; and validating the second set of credentials provided by the user by accessing the second credential store to determine whether the numeric username and numeric pin are associated with a single unique user identifier, wherein each set of credentials in the second credential store also associated with a single unique user identifier of the-a user, a single unique user account, and a single unique user profile such that upon determining that the second set of credentials is associated with the same unique user identifier as the first set of credentials, the unique user identifier is returned to the cellular phone such that the cellular phone may use the unique user identifier to access the service."

Independent claim 48 recites the uniquely distinct feature of "..... receiving an authentication request at the authentication system from a first computer, wherein the authentication request includes a first set of credentials of the user; determining based on a format of the first set of credentials that a first credential store is to be accessed to

validate the authentication request from the first computer, the first credential store storing sets of credentials that have the same format; validating the first set of credentials provided by the user by accessing the first credential store to determine whether the first set of credentials is associated with a single unique user identifier, wherein each set of credentials in the first credential store is associated with a single unique user identifier of a user, a single unique user account, and a single unique user profile such that upon determining that the first set of credentials is associated with a unique user identifier, the unique user identifier is returned to the first computer such that the desktop computer may use the unique user identifier to access a service; receiving a second authentication request at the authentication system from a second computer, wherein the authentication request includes a second set of credentials of the user, the second set of credentials -having a format that is different than the format of the first set of credentials; determining based on the format of the second set of credentials that a second credential store is to be accessed to validate the authentication request from the second computer, the second credential store storing sets of credentials that each have the same format; and validating the second set of credentials provided by the user by accessing the second credential store to determine whether the second set of credentials is associated with a single unique user identifier, wherein each set of credentials in the second credential store is also associated with a single unique user identifier of a user, a single unique user account, and a single unique user profile such that upon determining that the second set of credentials is associated with the same unique user identifier as the first set of credentials, the unique user

identifier is returned to the second computer such that the second computer may use the unique user identifier to access the service.”

The prior art, taken either singly or in combination, fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the limitations of Applicant’s independent claims, in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 would be proper. The claimed invention is therefore considered to be in condition for allowance as being novel and nonobviousness over prior art.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUMAN DEBNATH whose telephone number is (571)270-1256. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am to 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on 571 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/S. D./
Examiner, Art Unit 2435

/Kimyen Vu/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2435